

**BY ORDER OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 91-2

24 JULY 2012



Safety

SAFETY PROGRAMS

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

ACCESSIBILITY: Publications and forms are available on the e-Publishing website at www.e-Publishing.af.mil.

RELEASABILITY: There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

OPR: AFSEC/SEA

Certified by: AF/SE
(Maj Gen Gregory Feest)

Supersedes: AFPD 91-2, 28 September
1993; AFD 91-3, 27
September 1993

Pages: 8

This Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) implements DoD Directive (DoDD) 6055.9E, *DoD Explosives Safety Management and the DoD Explosives Safety Board*; DoD Instructions (DoDI) 6055.1, *DoD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program*, 6055.04, *DoD Traffic Safety Program*, and 6055.07, *Mishap Notification, Investigation, Reporting and Record Keeping*. This AFPD interfaces with and is consistent with AFD 63-1_20-1, *Integrated Life Cycle Management*, and DoDIs 6055.05, *Occupational and Environmental Health (OEH)*, 6050.05, *DoD Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) Program*, 6055.15, *DoD Laser Protection Program*, 6055.11, *Protecting Personnel from Electromagnetic Fields*, AFD51-5, *Military Legal Affairs*, AFI 51-503, *Aerospace Accident Investigations*, and AFI 51-507, *Ground Accident Investigations*. This AFPD may not be supplemented at any level per AFD 90-1, *Policy Formulation*, and AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*. It applies to active duty members, Department of the Air Force (DAF) civilians, Air National Guard (ANG) members and Air Force Reserve (AFR) personnel.

Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through appropriate functional's chain of command. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS) Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm>.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This publication has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. This publication rescinds and integrates AFPD 91-3. The Air Force will have a comprehensive safety program to identify and control hazards and to prevent mishaps. This directive establishes policy for the Air Force's Safety Program. It consolidates Safety Program Management and Occupational Safety and Health publications to provide an integrated framework for safety management.

1. Overview. Air Force leadership is committed to providing safe, healthful environments both for Air Force personnel and for those affected by Air Force operations. This Directive describes the necessary overarching structure, including policies, roles and responsibilities that enable the Air Force to manage its Safety Programs efficiently and effectively. Safety programs preserve resources to maximize combat capability by eliminating mishaps through proactive hazard identification and risk management. Foundational elements of this concept are:

1.1. Identify and Mitigate Hazards. Airmen must be capable of: identifying threats/hazards to successful task accomplishment on- and off-duty; taking action to identify and implement measures to reduce the risk associated with those hazards; and elevating risk acceptance decisions to the appropriate level within the chain of Command.

1.2. Investigate Reportable Mishaps. Understanding organizational, supervisory, and individual circumstances and pre-conditions surrounding mishaps is fundamental to preventing the recurrence of similar mishaps in the future and must be incorporated back into system design and acquisition processes. Safety Investigations focus solely on mishap prevention and will not be used for punitive purposes. Safety Reports, their attachments, and privileged information extracted from them will not be used as evidence for punitive, disciplinary, or adverse administrative actions. Privileged information will not be used as evidence in determining the misconduct or line-of-duty status of any personnel, or as evidence in a flying evaluation board. The Safety Investigation Board (SIB) is separate and distinct from the Aerospace or Ground Accident Investigation Board (AIB) convened under the auspices of AFI 51-503 or AFI 51-507 respectively to provide the publicly releasable record of the event.

1.3. Prevent Mishaps. The Air Force goal is to reduce the number of mishaps, occupational injuries and illnesses to zero. To this end, commanders will establish and support Safety programs that reduce or eliminate risk to personnel, equipment, facilities, and operations.

1.4. Safety Training. A workforce trained to recognize and assess hazardous situations and conditions is the first step toward mishap elimination. All personnel and their supervisors must be trained in the proper application of safety principles to reduce: personnel injury or fatalities; equipment damage or loss; and mission degradation or failure.

2. Policy. The Air Force shall:

2.1. Support Hazard Identification and Mitigation. Commanders must identify and control hazards to prevent mishaps. When mishaps do occur, Air Force leaders must investigate to identify the causes and mitigate hazards to ensure those mishaps are not repeated. Commanders will identify and eliminate, where feasible, or reduce all hazards to personnel, property and the general public when those hazards result from its operations.

2.1.1. Leaders and commanders must develop and support programs for hazard identification and mitigation. Air Force personnel must have the means to identify any real or potential condition that can: cause injury, illness or death to personnel; damage to or loss of equipment or property; mission degradation; or damage to the environment, with the expectation that commanders will employ the risk management process to eliminate or reduce the hazard.

2.1.2. When hazards cannot be eliminated, leaders, commanders and subordinates must know the specific risks involved, and manage those risks to an acceptable level for mission accomplishment. Assess and document risks associated with the hazard and use protective measures to lower the risks to the lowest level feasible.

2.2. Provide Mishap Prevention. Support Mishap Investigation. The Air Force will investigate mishaps/hazards involving its personnel and property, to include occupational injuries and illness. Investigative efforts will continue until the Air Force determines all the causal factors involved in the mishap and makes its recommendations for preventing recurrence.

2.2.1. Safety mishap investigations have priority over all other related investigations of a mishap until competent authority determines the incident is outside the scope of this directive

2.2.2. All Safety Mishap Reports are intended For Official Use Only; privileged information will not be disclosed outside the US Air Force safety community. Air Force Safety (HQ USAF/SE) is the decision authority on all requests for exceptions to this policy.

2.3. At every level of its program, the Air Force will comply with Federal statutory and regulatory requirements and higher authority policy directives. This includes meeting all Federal mishap prevention objectives and safety provisions contained in status of force agreements between member nations. Air Force Occupational Safety and Health (AFOSH) standards will apply in all areas except where otherwise prescribed or specified in status of forces agreements, or where specifically exempted. Safety and occupational health requirements will be incorporated as part of acquisition for new systems <system safety>.

2.4. Provide Safety Training. The Air Force will train all employees in occupational safety and health—integrated as much as possible into job training. The Air Force will train and equip people to identify, evaluate and control workplace hazards.

3. Responsibilities.

3.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Logistics (SAF/IE) is responsible for Occupational Safety and Health policy matters as delegated by SECDEF in HAFMD 1-18.

3.2. The Air Force Chief of Safety (AF/SE), as delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force (SECDEF) in HAFMD 1-46, is responsible for:

3.2.1. Formation of safety policy, the execution of safety plans, and the establishment of safety programs. Provides instructions for field level programs and feedback on effectiveness of plans and programs.

3.2.2. Formation of nuclear surety policy, the execution of nuclear surety plans, and the establishment of nuclear surety programs. Provides instructions for field level programs and feedback on effectiveness of plans and programs.

3.2.3. Serving as the Commander of the Air Force Safety Center. In the capacity of Commander of the Air Force Safety Center, the AF/SE is responsible for:

3.2.3.1. Developing all AFPDs, AFIs, Manuals and Standards that govern the AF Safety Program and the official interpretation of those policies and guidance.

3.2.3.2. Establishing a Safety Management System (SMS) to include:

3.2.3.2.1. Mishap Investigation and Reporting.

3.2.3.2.1.1. Maintaining mishap database and reports for mishap prevention purposes.

3.2.3.2.1.2. Monitoring completion of recommendations and corrective actions.

3.2.3.2.2. Hazard Identification and Abatement.

3.2.3.2.3. A System Safety Program.

3.2.3.2.4. Risk Management.

3.2.3.2.5. Maintaining statistics on occupational injuries and illnesses; fatalities and catastrophic incidents, trend of lost time injuries, and self evaluation, and reporting statistics to SAF/IE annually.

3.2.3.2.6. Establish comprehensive Air Force traffic safety programs.

3.2.3.3. Conducting the by-law Program Evaluations (PME) of MAJCOMs, FOAs, and DRUs to ensure compliance with all directives.

3.2.3.4. Acting as a safety liaison with DoD components, Federal agencies and private organizations.

3.2.3.5. Establishing safety training and qualification criteria.

3.2.3.6. Managing the Air Force Safety Awards Program.

3.3. The Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG) is responsible for developing policy, managing programs and preparing guidance on approved policies and plans for the field in the general area of occupational health pursuant to authorities established in HAFMD 1-48, *The Air Force Surgeon General*, 17 November 2011.

MICHAEL B. DONLEY
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DoDD 6055.9E, *DoD Explosives Safety Management and the DoD Explosives Safety Board*, August 19, 2005

DoDI 6050.05, *DoD Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) Program*, August 15, 2006 (Certified Current as of May 15, 2011)

DoDI 6055.1, *DoD Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Program*, August 19, 1998

DoDI 6055.04, *DoD Traffic Safety Program*, April 20, 2009 (Incorporating Change 1, April 2, 2010)

DoDI 6055.05, *Occupational and Environmental Health (OEH)*, November 11, 2008

DoDI 6055.07, *Mishap Notification, Investigation, Reporting and Record Keeping*, June 6, 2011

DoDI 6055.11, *Protecting Personnel from Electromagnetic Fields*, August 19, 2009

DoDI 6055.15, *DoD Laser Protection Program*, May 4, 2007

HAFMD 1-18, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Logistics)*, 4 March 2009

HAFMD 1-46, *Chief of Safety*, 4 February 2011

HAF MD 1-48, *The Air Force Surgeon General*, 17 November 2011

AFPD51-5, *Military Legal Affairs*, 27 September 1993

AFPD 63-1_20-1, *Acquisition and Sustainment Life Cycle Management*, 3 April 2009

AFPD 90-1, *Policy Formulation*, 6 October 2010

AFPD 90-8, *Environment, Safety and Occupational Health*, 1 September 2004

AFPD 91-1, *Nuclear Weapons and Systems Surety*, 13 December 2010

AFI 51-503, *Aerospace Accident Investigations*, 26 May 2010

AFI 51-507, *Ground Accident Investigations*, 28 May 2010

AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, 18 May 2006

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 1 March 2008

Adopted Forms

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFOSH—Air Force Occupational Safety and Health

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive
AFRIMS—Air Force Records Information Management System
AIB—Accident Investigation Board
DAF—Department of the Air Force
DoD—Department of Defense
DoDD—Department of Defense Directive
DoDI—Department of Defense Instruction
DRU—Direct Reporting Unit
FOA—Field Operating Agency
HAZCOM—Hazard Communication
JAG—Judge Advocate General
MAJCOM—Major Command
OEH—Occupational and Environmental Health
OPR—Office of Primary Responsibility
PME—Program Management Evaluations
RDS—Records Disposition Schedule
SIB—Safety Investigation Board
SOH—Safety and Occupational Health
SECAF—Secretary of the Air Force
SMS—Safety Management System

Terms

Aerospace or Ground Accident Investigation—A Judge Advocate General (JAG) investigation conducted under the procedures of AFI 51-503, *Aerospace Accident Investigations* and AFI 51-507 *Ground Accident Investigations*, respectfully. These investigations are used to inquire into the facts surrounding Air Force aircraft, aerospace and ground accidents, to prepare a publicly releasable report, to gather and preserve evidence for use in litigation, claims, disciplinary action, administrative proceedings and for other purposes. This investigation is conducted independently from the safety mishap investigation.

Civilian Personnel—Personnel who are in on-duty status and are Senior Executive Service, General Schedule, and Wage Grade employees; non-appropriated fund employees (excluding part-time military); Youth Opportunity and Student Assistance Program employees; and civilian foreign nationals employed by the US Air Force.

Disabling Injury—Injury which results in death, permanent total, permanent partial or lost workday case injuries.

Explosives—All items of ammunition; propellants (solid and liquid); pyrotechnics; explosives; warheads; explosive devices; and chemical agent substances and associated components presenting real or potential hazards to life, property, or the environment. Excluded are wholly inert items and nuclear warheads and associated devices, except for considerations of storage and stowage compatibility; and for considerations of blast, fire, and non-nuclear fragment hazards associated with the explosives.

Flight Mishap—Mishap involving Air Force aircraft when intent for flight is established.

Ground Mishap—Nonnuclear mishap which occurs on ground or water, on or off an Air Force installation, involving Air Force personnel, Air Force contractor operations, or Air Force property.

Hazard—Any real or potential condition, procedure, or practice that can: cause injury, illness, or death to personnel; damage to or loss of equipment or property; mission degradation; or damage to the environment.

Military Personnel—All Air Force officers and airmen on active duty; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel on active duty or in drill status; US Air Force Academy cadets when engaged in directed training activities; members of other US Military Services serving on extended active duty with the Air Force; and foreign national military personnel assigned to the US Air Force. Air Force officers and airmen serving on extended active duty with another Department of Defense component are excluded from this definition.

Mishap—An unplanned event, or series of events, which results in damage to Air Force property; injury to Air Force personnel; injury to on-duty civilian personnel; occupational illness to Air Force military or civilian personnel; or damage to property, injury, or illness to non-Department of Defense personnel caused by Air Force operations.

Missile Mishap—Mishap involving missiles or missile support equipment.

Privileged <Safety> Information—Information that is exempt by law from disclosure outside the DoD safety community and includes findings, conclusions, causes, recommendations, and the deliberative process of the safety board. This category of information also includes statements given to the safety board pursuant to a promise of confidentiality.

Reportable Mishap—An unplanned event or accidental occurrence, or series of events, which results in damage to Air Force property in excess of \$20,000; disabling injury to Air Force personnel on- or off- duty; disabling injury to on-duty civilian personnel; occupational illness to Air Force military or civilian personnel; or damage to public and private property or injury and illness to non-Department of Defense (DoD) personnel caused by Air Force operations. Damage or injury must fall within the reportable limits specified in DoD Instruction 6055.07. Mishaps are classified by the total dollar cost of damage or the degree of injury or occupational illness. Class A. Total cost of property damage is \$2,000,000 or more; an injury or occupational illness which results in a fatality or permanent total disability; or destruction of an Air Force aircraft. Class B. Total cost of property damage is \$500,000 or more, but less than \$2,000,000; an injury or occupational illness which results in a permanent partial disability; or when three or more personnel are inpatient hospitalized. Class C. Total cost of property damage is \$50,000 or more, but less than \$500,000; a non-fatal injury or occupational illness which results in the loss of one or more days from work. Class D. Total cost of property damage is \$20,000 or more, but less

than \$50,000; a recordable injury or occupational illness not otherwise classified as Class A, B or C.

Safety Investigation—Investigation of an Air Force mishap for the sole purpose of mishap prevention.

Safety Program—Those risk management activities designed to, and organizational and cultural values dedicated to, preventing injuries and accidental loss of human and materiel resources.

Space Mishap—Mishap involving space systems or their unique support equipment and systems.

System Safety—The application of engineering and management principles, criteria and techniques throughout all phases of the system life cycle to optimize safety within the constraints of operational effectiveness, time, and cost.

Weapons Mishap—A mishap involving explosives, small arms, guided missiles, chemical agents or directed energy.